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ADVERTISER

SUSTAINING

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #450K FARM AND HOME HOUR

CHICAGO OUTLET

(11:30-12:30 P.M. CST)

TIME

WMAQ

BLUE

(SEPTEMBER 12, 1941

DATE

(

FRIDAY

DAY

)

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!
2. MUSIC: Theme
3. ANNOUNCER: There has always been a great deal of confusion about the
4. meaning of the term forestry; that's because forestry
5. doesn't lend itself to easy or simple definition. There are so many
6. factors involved in forestry that no one part of it can successfully explain
7. its whole meaning and significance. Here in America, forestry involves the
8. protection of existing forests against fire, insects, and disease; it
9. involves the restoration of denuded lands by the planting of trees or new
10. forests; it has to do with the perpetuation of forests by appropriate
11. logging methods and the application of the principle of sustained yield.
12. Forestry also involves what ever efforts are necessary to sustain markets for
13. forest products. It takes into account the necessity of managing forest
14. lands for values other than timber, values like water, forage, wildlife and
15. recreation. All this is forestry, a highly coordinated technique with
16. many methods and many purposes. It should be remembered however that these
17. purposes cannot be obtained through accident or as a result of unplanned
18. action. If the highest possible values and services are to be gotten from
19. forest lands, - conscious, deliberate and well-planned forestry is necessary.
20. By the same token, if the forest problem that now exists in this country is
21. to be solved, good all-inclusive forestry methods must be substituted for the
22. inadequate and uneconomical forest practices that still largely prevail in
23. the forests of our Nation.
24. Now let's see what's happening on the Pine Cone National
25. forest. As we look in at the Ranger Station we find Ranger Jim Robbins and
- his assistant, Jerry Quick, talking with Harry Devonshire, owner, manager,
- editor and reporter of the Willow Glen Clarion. Here they are.....

1. JERRY: Jim, I don't think we ought to even bother with Harry
2. here...He doesn't seem to be very interested.....
3. JIM: Yeah, I guess you're right, Jerry. Maybe we'd better
4. turn the story over to that other Willow Glen paper.
5. They've got an up and coming newspaper, I understand.
6. HARRY: Hey, wait a minute you two. I didn't say I wasn't interested.
7. All I said was I didn't think you had a story I could use
8. if it's about a ghost town. And I still don't think so.
9. Ghost towns are.....
10. JIM: Yeah, but this isn't the usual ghost town story, Harry.
11. HARRY: Look, Jim. There's a whole lot of ghost towns around the
12. country. It's tough that there should be ghost towns,
13. sure, but here's the rub. All ghost town stories are the
14. same. Wasted resources, exploitation, the out-out and
15. get-out policy, workers left stranded and so on and so on.
16. JERRY: If you'd just listen to Jim a minute, Harry. He's got a
17. different kind of ghost town story. Take my word for it.
18. JIM: Call up that other paper in Willow Glen, Jerry. That
19. editor will like the story.
20. JERRY: O.K. , Jim.
21. HARRY: Hold on a minute...All right, Jim. What's the angle?
22. JIM: I don't want to cram this down your throat, Harry.
23. HARRY: Say, did you know any newspaperman who stood for getting
24. something crammed down his throat? I admit I went off a
25. little half-cocked as soon as you mentioned ghost town but
I'll listen now. I warn you though.....

1. JIM: Yeah?
 2. HARRY: If I still think the story's no good I won't use it.
 3. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, that's up to you, Harry.....
 4. HARRY: What town is it?
 5. JERRY: Twin Forks.
 6. HARRY: Twin Forks? Up there in that Big Cove country?
 7. JIM: That's right.
 8. HARRY: Jim Robbins, I've got a good notion to wrap this desk
 9. around your neck. Why....I had a full-page spread on
 10. Twin Forks not four years ago. Pictures and everything.
 11. And you know it...Where's my hat?
 12. JERRY: Right in your hand, Harry.
 13. HARRY: I come way out here to get a story and you fellows hand
 14. me something I used a while back. What kind of a trick is
 15. that?
 16. JIM: Think back a bit, Harry. If you'll remember, that article
 17. you ran on Twin Forks had an ending something like this...
 18. let's see now... maybe these aren't the exact words but
 19. they'll do...Twin Forks no longer lives. With its principal
 20. resource, timber, gone, there was no reason for its people
 21. to stay on....Twin Forks has no future...its history is of
 22. the past...Twin Forks has no value now...its strength and
 23. its wealth are things of the past....
 24. HARRY: Yeah and then I said: Twin Forks is dead, it now shelters
 25. only ghosts, a sad exchange for the living spirit that might
- have flourished here if the forest had not been so thoughtlessly cut away... Well, what of it, Jim?

1. JIM: Harry, as a prophet you weren't so good. What you said
2. about Twin Forks not living was true as far as it no longer
3. being a thriving community was concerned. But you guessed
4. wrong about its value and, yes, about its future too.
5. HARRY: Huh? What do you mean?
6. JERRY: What Jim's driving at is that you've got a swell chance for
7. a follow up story on Twin Forks, Harry.
8. JIM: Yes. That's it, Harry. You probably don't know it but
9. the Forest Service bought all that cut-over land around
10. Twin Forks shortly after you ran that story. The
11. abandoned town came along with the land into public
12. ownership.....
13. HARRY: No, I didn't know that, Jim. And you've done some work on
14. the land since?
15. JIM: On the land and with what was left of the town too, Harry.
16. HARRY: Say! There may be something in the story after all. Let's
17. have it.
18. JERRY: Well! He's impressed, Jim! At long last!
19. JIM: Suppose you ride up to Twin Forks with us, Harry. Jerry
20. and I have a little work to do up there and I can tell you
21. all about it as we ride along.
22. JERRY: I'll run out and get the horses ready, Jim. (GOING OFF)
23. Won't take long.
24. JIM: O.K. Jerry.
25. HARRY: (CALLS) Better make mine a gentle one, Jerry. I'm a bit
out of riding practice.

1. JERRY: (FROM OFF) Don't worry, Harry. All our horses are gentle.
2. HARRY: Do you think I ought to take the camera along, Jim? I've
3. got it in the car out front.
4. JIM: Good idea. You might get some good pictures up there.
5. HARRY: Well, let's go then...Oh, by the way, Jim. I appreciate
6. your letting me in on this story. It'll give me an
7. exclusive, huh?
8. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, now, Harry. To be real honest about
9. this I can't say as you're the only one I told. You see,
10. I sent word to that other paper in your town and to the
11. Elk City papers, too that I thought I had a story they
12. could use. You're the only one who's showed up here....
13. HARRY: Why you old (FADE) Horse thief, you....
14. MUSICAL INTERLUDE
15. FADE IN SOUND OF HORSE HOOFES, SUSTAIN
16. HARRY: And you say you've used about everything you could salvage
17. from the old town?
18. JERRY: You'll never recognize Twin Forks the way it is now, Harry.
19. JIM: Yep. We were able to put everything, that was worth
20. anything at all, to practical use...That cattle guard we
21. passed by, back there a ways. Did you notice how it was
22. built?
23. HARRY: Yeah. The rails looked like old railroad stock.
24. JIM: They came from Twin Forks. We found a pile of rails going
25. to rust back of the old mill. We put 'em to work again in
- cattle guards, and in fireplaces on some of the recreation
- areas.

1. JERRY: You ought to tell Harry about the contribution Twin Forks
2. made to defense, Jim.
3. HARRY: Huh? What was that?
4. JIM: All the scrap iron from the old mill and machinery that was
5. left around was pulled out, Harry. For conversion into
6. munitions and guns and the like.
7. HARRY: Say, there are so many good angles to this story I won't
8. hardly know how to write it, Jim.
9. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Look at the glint in his eye, Jerry. Reminds
10. me of a hungry man waiting to pounce on a steak that's
11. being cooked over hickory coals and can't make up his mind
12. whether he ought to eat it now or wait 'til it's well-done.
13. HARRY: You mean there's more to the story of Twin Forks than
14. you've already pointed out?
15. JIM: Let's stop here on this ridge a minute, Harry... Whoa Doll
16. Whoa Girl....(HORSES HOOF OUT)
17. HARRY: What's stopping on a ridge got to do with Twin Forks, Jim?
18. JIM: There's another angle, as you call it, down there in the
19. valley below, Harry.
20. HARRY: I can't see anything except a couple of ranches, Jim. Two
21. small ranches, that's all.
22. JIM: Yeah. The place to the east belongs to Lee Goodhart. The
23. other one is Frank Gilbert's ranch. Both those fellows
24. have had a lot of bad luck the past couple years but they're
25. hard-working family men. The kind of folks that deserve
all the help you can give 'em.

1. JERRY: Their places were run down and needed repairing along with
2. some others in the valley beyond. None of the men had
3. much money and with winter coming on, things looked tough.
4. HARRY: I got it. Twin Forks to the rescue, huh?
5. JIM: Right. There was some scrap lumber left in some of the
6. deserted buildings in Twin Forks. That lumber was put to
7. use again by Goodhart and Gilbert and several others and
8. now they don't have to worry none about the winter. Their
9. homes are in good shape.
10. JERRY: We were able to turn loose a lot of the broken concrete
11. and masonry around Twin Forks, too, Harry. Gave it as free
12. special-use to the folks that wanted it for barn foundations
13. and the like.
14. HARRY: Say, this is a swell yarn but good gravy, what's the use of
15. even seeing Twin Forks now? There can't be anything left
16. there but a big empty lot.
17. JERRY: Uh, unh. You're wrong, Harry. We've done some planting.
18. A young forest is coming up where the town once stood.
19. Small tress all over the place.
20. JIM: That's right, Harry. Only thing left of the Twin Forks that
21. used to be is a long pile of rubbish and debris we've got to
22. burn before we can finish planting the whole area. That's
23. what Jerry and I are riding up there for today. To see
24. about the firelines the boys put around the pile so's we
25. can decide when to burn it.

1. HARRY: Life returns to Twin Forks, huh? A new forest to replace
2. the old....
3. JIM: We thought you'd like to see the young trees and all, Harry
4. Well, Twin Forks is just over that next ridge. We better
5. get along. All-right, Dolly...let's go.
6. SOUND OF HORSES HOOF SUSTAIN
7. JERRY: Jim, look ahead up there! Isn't that smoke?
8. HARRY: I can see it! It is smoke!
9. JIM: Yeah, and it's coming from the Twin Forks area...Say, I
10. hope there's no fire in those young trees...Get going,
11. Dolly...Up, gal, up!
12. HORSES HOOF BEAT UP AND OUT
13. PAUSE
14. FADE IN CRACKLING FLAMES
15. JERRY: (OFF) Jim! Yo, Jim!
16. JIM: (CALLS) Here, Jerry, we're over here.
17. HARRY: Well, there's no danger of it getting out on this side, huh?
18. Jim?
19. JIM: No, the boys did a good job on this firebreak all right.
20. JERRY: (COMING ON) Hello there! It's all clear on the other side,
21. Jim. Can't possibly get away.
22. JIM: Well, we'll have to watch her until she's out. Or until a
23. fire crew gets here any way. Windy Mountain lookout's
24. sure to have seen this smoke by now.
25. JERRY: Jim, who do you think set this pile of debris afire? You
- didn't give any orders to burn it up, did you?

1. JIM: No, Jerry. And the crew that was working here finished the
2. job ten or twelve days ago.
3. JERRY: I can't figure it out. There's not a sign of a track on the
4. other side. That rain last week even cleaned up the tracks
5. that were made by the boys.
6. JIM: Yeah. It's got me puzzled too. Harry and I couldn't find
7. any tracks on this side.
8. HARRY: Maybe it was started by lightning.
9. JIM: No, Harry. There's been no lightning storms since the
10. last rain. No...It stumps me...You know, it's almost as if
11. the ghosts of Twin Forks decided they ought to be the ones
12. to write the last chapter for the town and set this pile
13. afire themselves.
14. JERRY: What kind of talk is that, Jim? I suppose you'll say next
15. that those same old ghosts are sittin' up there on the
16. hillsides splittin' their sides laughing at us...Tommyrot!
17. HARRY: (EXCITED) Tommyrot nothing...Jim Robbins, you are a pal.
18. Why, you've given me the best doggoned angle a man ever had
19. for a story like this. Don't you see? Ghosts have last
20. word, Set fire to town when Life returns...well, something
21. like that, anyway....
22. JIM: Hey, where you going, Harry?
23. HARRY: (GOING OFF) I got to get this story written, Jim. It's a
24. swell story. It might even make press wire service and
25. get around all over the country. I don't want to waste any
time and I know the way back.....

1. JIM: (CALLS) Want Jerry to go with you?
2. HARRY: (OFF) No thanks. I'll make it all right...Much obliged
3. for everything, Jim. So-long, Jerry...Giddap, Zipper.
4. Let's go to town.
5. HORSES HOOFS START UP, GALLOP, FADE OUT AS
6. JIM & JERRY: So-long! Good-luck!
7. JERRY: Well, I'll be jiggered...Jim, he won't get far with a
8. fanciful tale like that, will he?
9. JIM: He might. Harry's a swell writer and he got some good
10. pictures of the fire that'll help.
11. JERRY: But, Jim, that ghost-starting-the-fire angle. Why it's...
12. it's crazy.
13. JIM: Come here a minute, Jerry. Look down there. See that?
14. JERRY: You mean that old fruit jar laying there in the ashes?
15. JIM: Yep, that's what started the fire, Jerry...that fruit jar.
16. JERRY: Aw no, Jim. That's worse than the ghose slant.
17. JIM: Just the same. That jar started the fire.
18. JERRY: But how, Jim?
19. JIM: The layers of glass in the jar magnified the sun's rays
20. and fire caught on to some old paper or something. I
21. noticed it soon's we got here. Right around that jar was
22. the coldest spot of the whole fire so it had to be the
23. first place to burn.
24. JERRY: But, Jim, I should think the jar would've had to have been
25. placed just right to do what you say it did...to catch the
- sun's rays and....

1. JIM: Yeah. The jar had to be in just exactly the right spot
2. and it was. One chance in hundreds that it's start a fire
3.but it did.
4. JERRY: (LAUGHING) That little jar there sure blasts the ghost
5. angle into a cocked hat. Why, one of the boys must have
6. tossed the jar down without giving it a second thought.
7. You're going to tell Harry, aren't you?
8. JIM: I don't know, Jerry. I don't know. Look. What was there
9. to prevent a ghost from directing the boy's arm, and his
10. aim, so the jar would land just right to start a fire?
11. JERRY: (AS BOTH LAUGH) Now, Jim....
12. MUSICAL: FINALE
13. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each Friday over
14. the National Farm and Home Hour as a presentation of the
15. National Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the
16. Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.
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23. MM
24. 9/8/41
25. 2:25

